

K-360

The Overbeck House  
Quaker Neck  
1st Quarter 19th Century

Only two significant old houses exist on Cornelius Comegys' 17th century plantation, Utrick; Comegys Bight and the Overbeck House. The description of the exterior of the two houses is similar . . . three-bay facade, central entrance, two-story brick house with moderately pitched 'A' roof. The facades are laid in Flemish bond and the chimneys within the gable have sloped weatherings. But the similarities cease there.

There is no date in the gable at the Overbeck House as there is at Comegys Bight. Most likely it dates from around 1800 and was built for the Comegys, as the entire Utrick tract was owned by the family from the 17th century to the 1850's.

When originally constructed, the two-bay kitchen wing was one-and-a-half stories tall and its southeast facade laid in Flemish bond, like the main part. When it was heightened later in the 19th century to two full stories, the mason did not carry the Flemish bond to the second story, but used the cheaper common bond.

Inside, the house was originally divided into the hall-parlor plan with the kitchen down several steps. In the 1970's, the house was gutted and remodeled with central stair in the living room. The house is an interesting example of a vernacular late Georgian farmhouse.

K-360

Overbeck House  
Chestertown  
Private

Late 18th Century

This is one of the early houses which line the banks of the Chester River, the highway of the early period. The building is brick and originally had a hall and parlor plan. The chimneys, like the nearby Comegys Bight House (K-91), are mullioned.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-360  
MAGI #150 <sup>360</sup> 5204

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Overbeck House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Quaker Neck, on Deep Point

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. George F. Johnson

Telephone #: (301) 778-0539

STREET & NUMBER

Shell Point, RD 3

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21620

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

Liber #: EHP 22

Folio #: 656

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Overbeck House is a three bay, two story brick dwelling with two wings arranged in telescope fashion to its northeast gable. Standing on the north bank of the Chester River on Quaker Neck, the building faces southeast.

This house is an example of a simple gable roofed farm house of the late 18th century. There is no string course and no water table on either major facade. Flat arches, used above each window opening on the first two floors, are slightly splayed and consist of a single row of stretchers. The only other decorative detailing is on the two enclosed chimneys, which have corbelled caps and sloped chimney backs of stretchers. This detail, also found on Ringgolds Fortune (K-97), dated 1762 and Comegys Bight House (K-91 ) of 1768 would probably date this house to a similar period. Unfortunately the house has recently been sandblasted, a process which has destroyed glazed headers, dates, or initials which may have existed. Bonding patterns are Flemish bond on the river facade and Liverpool bond on gables and approach facade. Mortar joints were originally grapevined.

The facades are evenly fenestrated with central entrance and flanking windows. The first floor windows were lengthened three brick courses in a recent restoration and modern 8/12 sash windows on the first floor installed. Modern sash windows were also used on the second floor. The low attic is lite only by small square gable windows. Window frames are trimmed with quarter round moldings which approxiamate the original.

Front and rear doors are modern with quarter round moldings. A wooden entrance porch, dating from the late 19th or early 20th centuries, was removed from the river facade. Entry to the basement is through a bulkhead on the south gable.

All remaining interior partitions, trim, stairs and floors were removed prior to the on-going restoration. However, an old plan remains which shows this to have been a hall and parlor plan building with corner stairs and two rooms on the both floors. Only old mantle surrounds, in all likelihood from the two first floor fireplaces, remain. They each have simple rectangular openings surrounded by a quarter round molding and a replacement mantle shelf supported by a quarter round and fillet crown mold and a bed mold consisting of a quarter round and cove molding. One door frame with carved quarter round molding survives the side entrance.

Northeast of the house was an early one and one-half story kitchen wing with gable roof and enclosed end chimney. It was covered with a steep gable roof and had two small attic windows in the gable. The fireplace was quite large and pyramidal in form, similar to that at Godlington Manor (K-88). Left of the fireplace was a ladder stair leading to servants quarters above, which, typically, were not connected on the second floor to the main house. If there were dormers is unknown. Some time in the 19th century the roof was raised to make the kitchen a full two stories and 6/6 sash

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-360

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES	3rd quarter 18th century	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Overbeck House is significant for its architecture and its age. It was one of the early houses which line the banks of the Chester River oriented, as the old dwellings usually were, toward the water. Its builder is unknown, but its proximity and similarity to the Comegys Bight House (K-91) would raise the speculation that they were built by the same family in the late 18th century.

Recently the house was owned by Mrs. Overbeck, now of Baltimore, for which it is named. The present tenants, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilson, are restoring the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

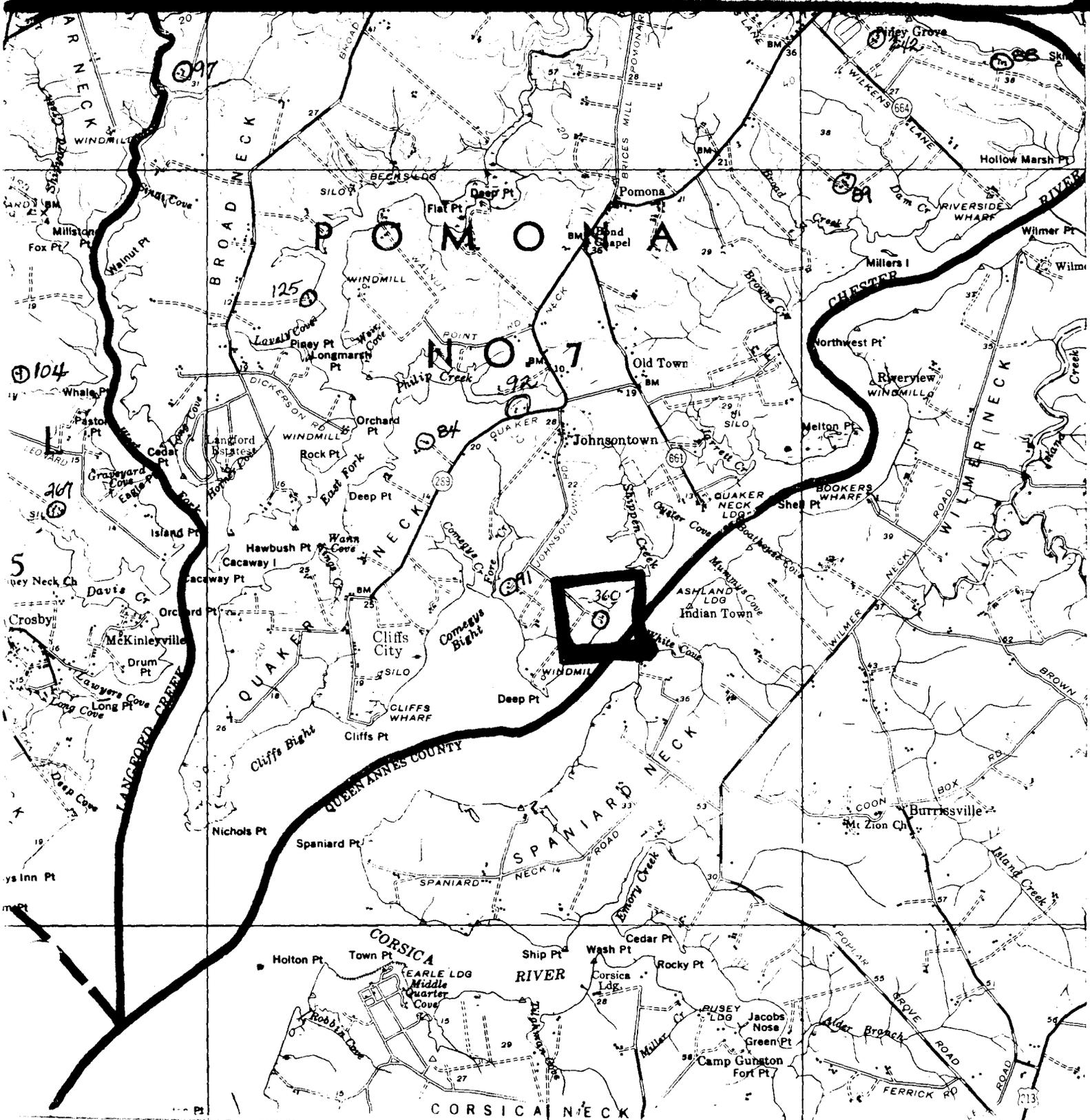
## # 7 Continued

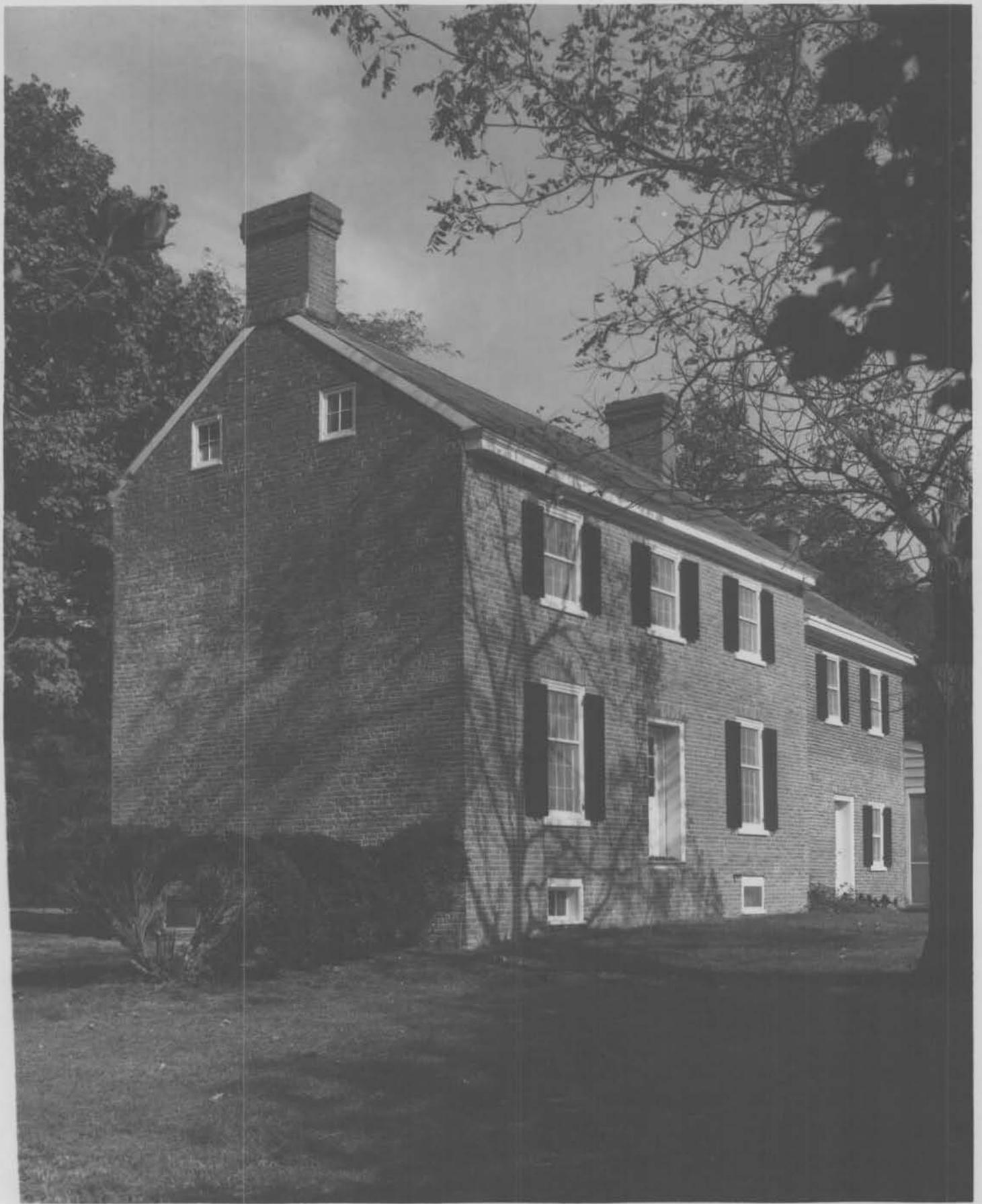
windows were installed on the upper floor. both facades.

At present a frame wing of one story stands beside the old brick kitchen. It was recently constructed and replaces an earlier frame wing which was felt to be incompatible with the old house. A log outbuilding on the property was also removed in recent years

The interior of the house is almost entirely new. Major changes include a central stair and splayed window jambs. Although an authentic restoration was not attempted, trim, doors and other details were chosen that are agreeable in scale with the old building.

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MHT-K-245

OVERBECK HOUSE  
DEEP POINT, QUAKER NECK  
CHESTERTOWN, MD.  
END VIEW FROM WEST  
C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977



OVERBECK HOUSE

MHT-~~K295~~ K-360

DEEP POINT, QUAKER NECK

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

RIVER FRONT FROM SOUTH-EAST

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977